BLACKTHORNE PUBLISHING INCORPORATED

Shuriken™

The GRAPHIC NOVEL

by REGGIE BUYERS

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SHURIKEN

CREATED, WRITTEN
AND DRAWN BY

REGGIE BYERS

CO-CREATED BY NEIL D. VOKES

WITH INKS BY:
MICHIO OKAMURA
CHRIS KALNICK
ROBERT DURHAM
RUS SEVER

LETTERING BY:
REGGIE BYERS
TOM ADDIS

DEDICATED TO MY FIANCÉE,

MICHELLE HARRISON

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Shuriken™

GRAPHIC NOVEL

BLACKTHORNE PUBLISHING INC.
El Cajon, California

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ayukawa madoka

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03-04-2007

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I'VE BEEN ASSIGNED TO TERMINATE A RENEGADE. I'M BEING PAID TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS.
I ♡ EDSEL FAN-CLUB
FOR THAT MUCH MONEY, I CAN WAIT ALL NIGHT.

鮎川まどか

THE BEST OF STEPHEN KING R
The Best of Stephen King
I KNOW YOU DON'T WANT TO SLEEP ALONE TONIGHT..
...AFTER SEEIN' THAT HORRIBLE MOVIE. RIGHT, JOAN?
YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT RODNEY.
THAT WAS FAST!!! EITHER YOU'RE EASY TO PERSUADE...
... OR YOU LIKE ME MORE THAN I THINK YOU DO!
I'm neither.
I'M TALKING ABOUT SLEEPING WITH MY TEDDY BEAR!
:chuckle:
IT'S GOT TO BE MY "MADONNA LOOK"...
...THAT MADE YOU ASK ME A QUESTION LIKE THAT!
WELL, IT LOOKS LIKE I WON'T HAVE TO WAIT ALL NIGHT AFTER ALL.

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HERE GOES NOTHING!

THE ENEMY

WRITTEN and ILLUSTRATED BY REGGIE BYERS
PLOT and CO-CREATED BY NEIL D. VOKES

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ELSEWHERE...

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:ahem!:
Meow...
..Purrr.
ha ha!!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU GET EXCITED WHEN I WORK OUT?
GOSH, LUCKY...
... I DIDN'T KNOW YOU CARED!

鮎川まとか

SO, LITTLE ONE...
...WHY SO QUIET? YOU'RE ACTING AS IF SOMETHING BAD IS ABOUT TO HAPPEN.
uh oh.
A NOTE?
DID YOU READ IT? WHAT DOES IT SAY?

鮎川まどか

LISTEN TO THIS, LUCKY...

"SHURIKEN, SEE MR. MORGAN AT ONCE. AN URGENT MATTER."

I TELL YOU, I'M HAVING DOUBTS ABOUT MORGAN AND HIS ORGANIZATION. I REALLY FEEL IT'S TIME...

...THAT I LEFT. IT'S AT THE POINT WHERE MY PRIVACY ISN'T PRIVATE.

I'D BETTER GET GOING.

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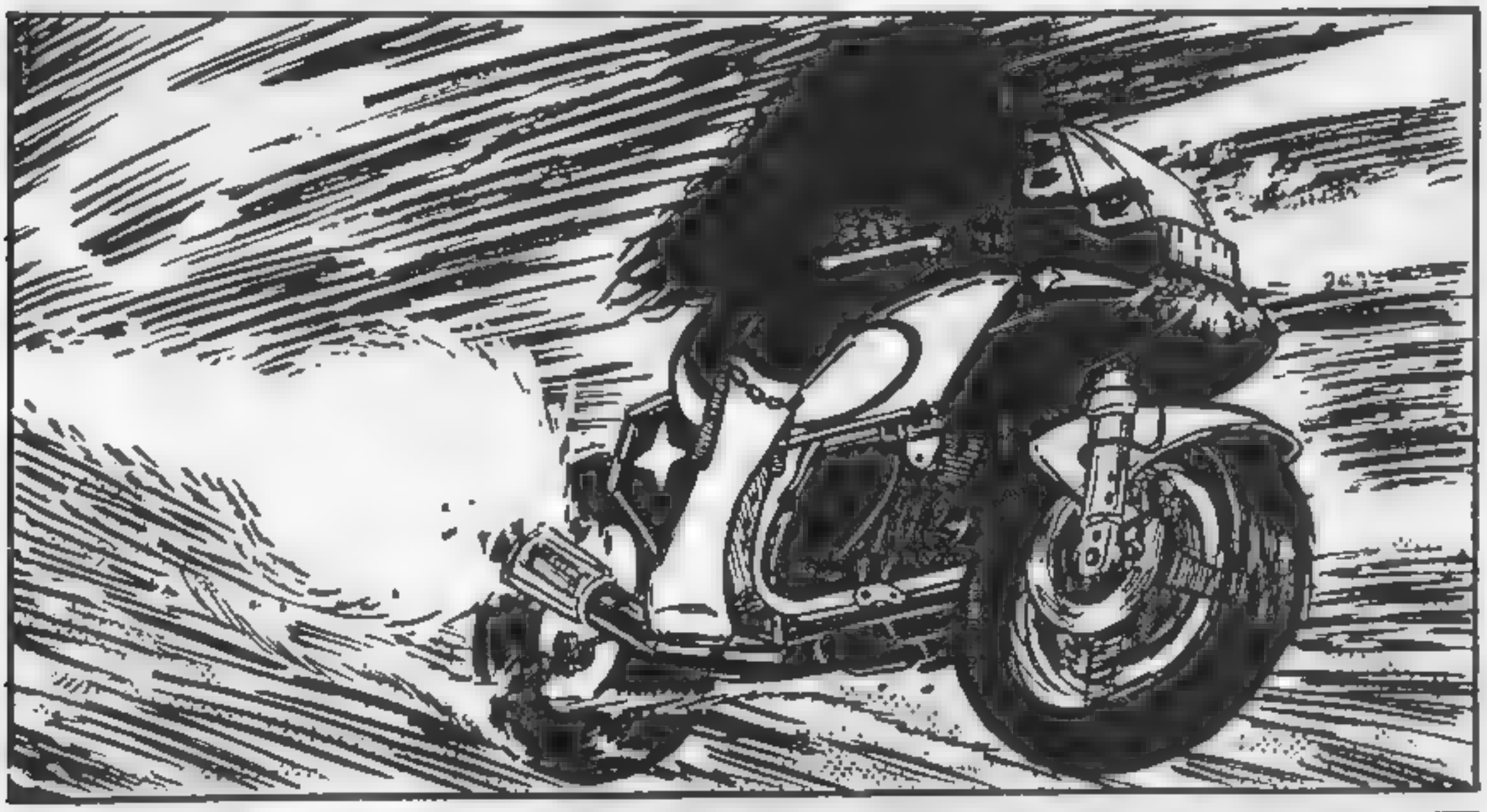
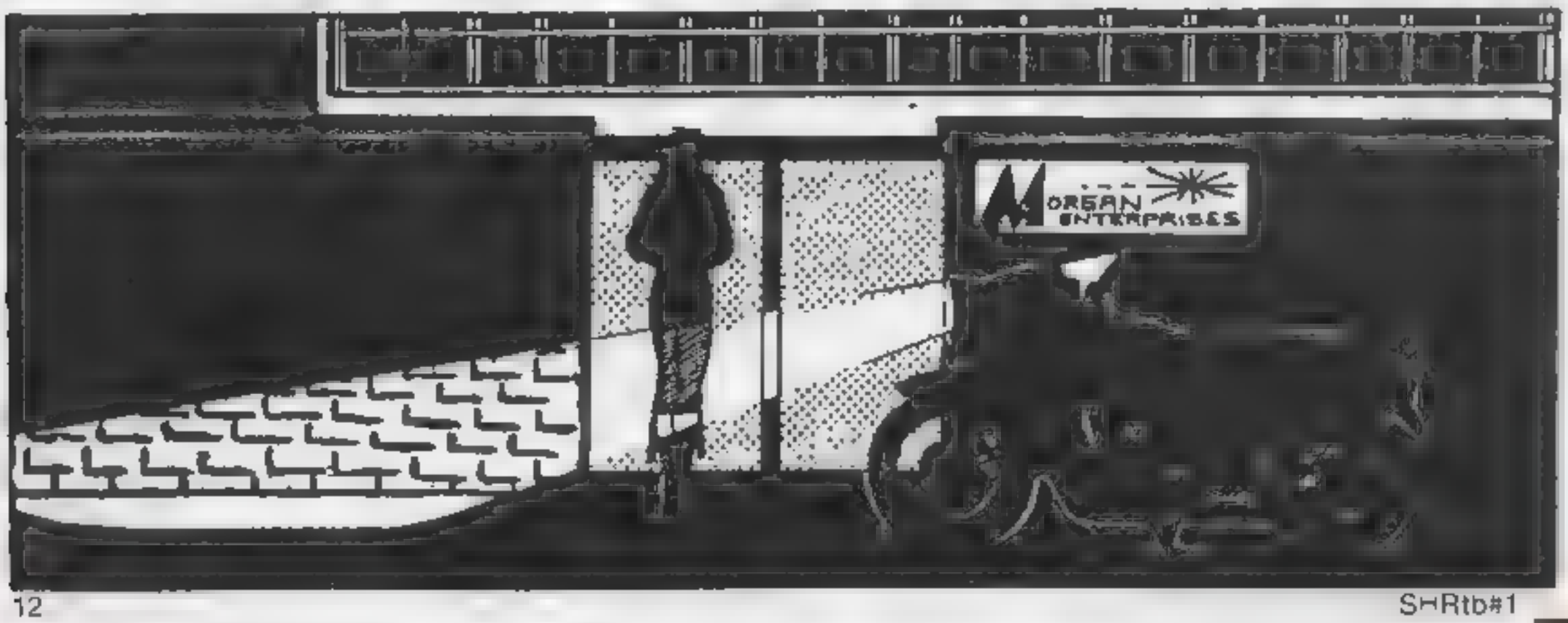
LATER....



WELL... HERE I AM.

"I WONDER WHAT COULD BE SO URGENT?"


MORGAN ENTERPRISES

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IT DOESN'T EVEN LOOK AS IF ANYONE'S HERE. NOT EVEN A GUARD.

ALL THE LIGHTS ARE OUT...,

BZZZT

huh?

WHUMP!!

WHEN DID HE HAVE THAT INSTALLED? AND WHERE THE HELL AM I? IT'S SO DARK DOWN HERE.

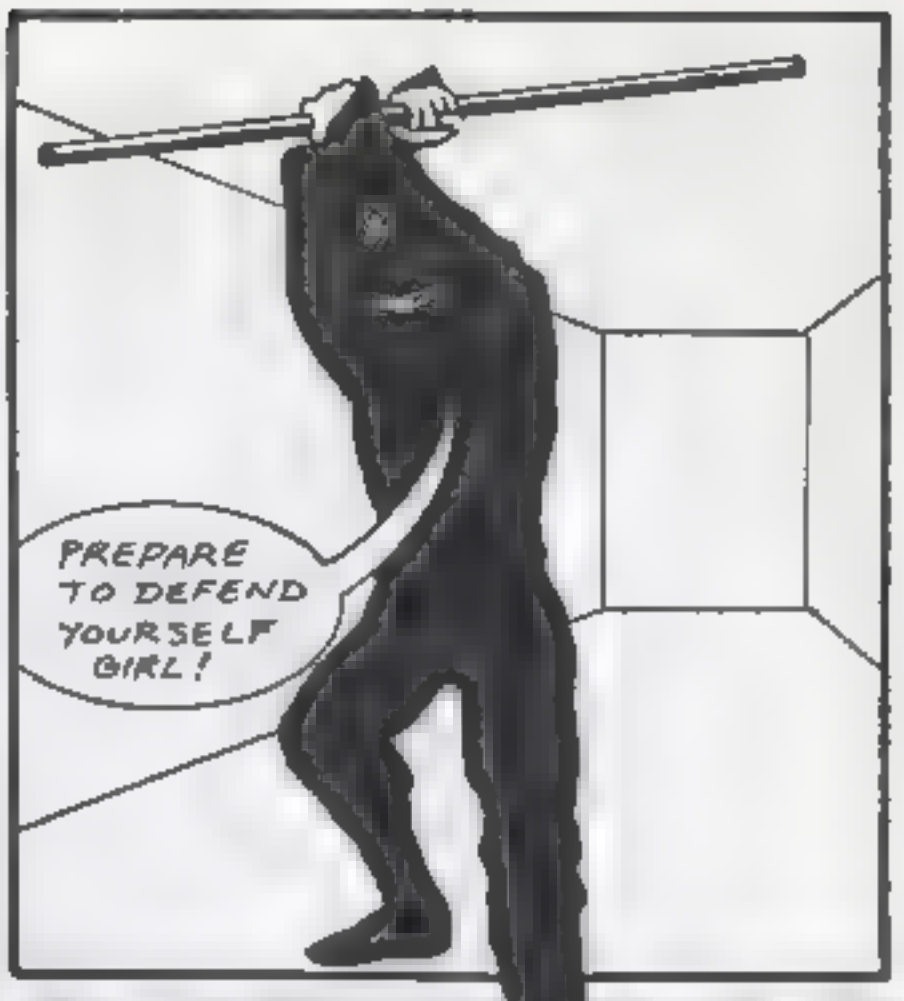
THAT SNAKE MUST BE GETTING READY TO TEST ME.

GREAT.

鮎川まとか

HE SHOULD HAVE THE COMMON DECENCY TO TURN ON THE LIGHTS.

CLICK


PREPARE TO DEFEND YOURSELF GIRL!

I SUPPOSE I'D BETTER GO AHEAD AND MAKE MYSELF AT HOME...

YEEAA!!

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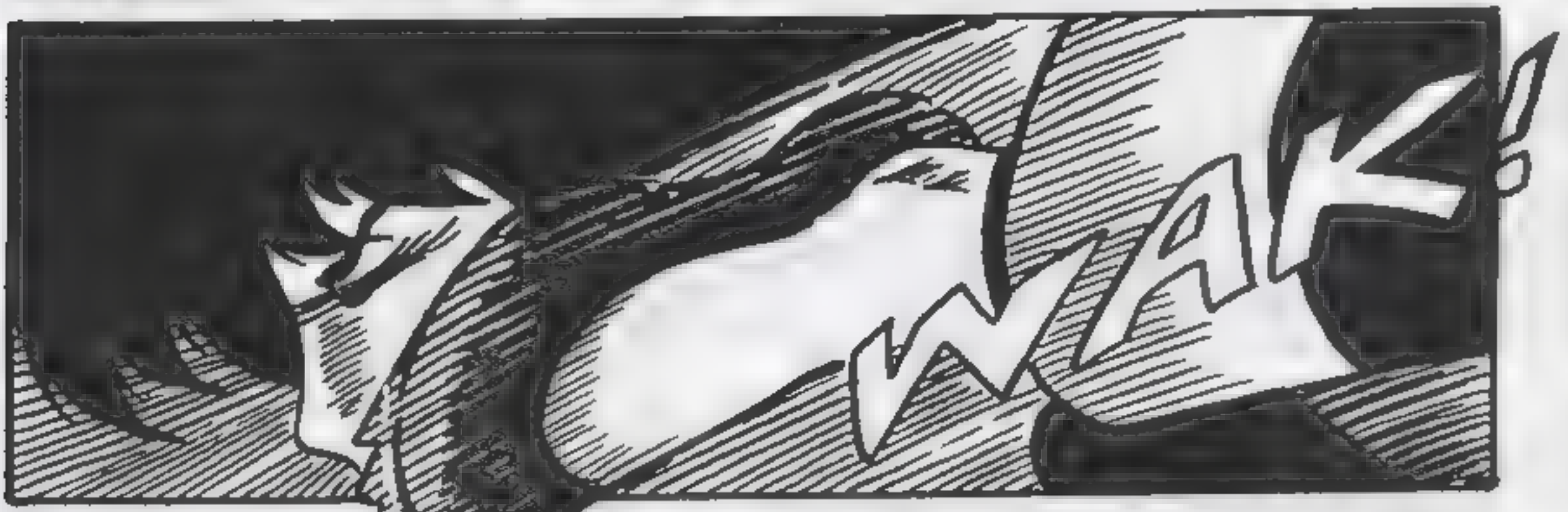
BRAP


WAK!

NOW SHURIKEN...
...DON'T TELL ME THAT LITTLE LOVE-TAP HURT YOU...
...COME ON...
...GET UP AND PLAY.
TIC
TAK

鮎川まとか

DAMN HIM! HIS KICKS ALWAYS DID TAKE ME OUT.

I CAN BARELY STAND!

I-I'M UP AND READY TO P-PLAY, LYNX....

...BUT YOU'RE GOING TO REGRET IT.

try me.

OH, I'LL 'TRY YOU' ALLRIGHT...

ENOUGH! BOTH OF YOU!

鮎川まとか

THE TWO COMBATANTS FORGET THEIR STAND-OFF AS AN IMPORTANT FIGURE ENTERS THE ROOM VIA AN ELEVATING SECTION IN THE FLOOR.

YOU ARE AS SHARP AS EVER, MY DEAR.

AND YOU ARE AS UNDERHANDED AS USUAL. WHY DID YOU CALL ON ME, MR. MORGAN?

PLEASE, PLEASE MY DEAR! LET'S NOT GET DOWN TO FORMALITIES SO SOON.

I ALWAYS SAY...

...PLEASURE BEFORE BUSINESS.

SMAK!

NEVER LET A FOOL KISS YOU---

---OR A KISS FOOL YOU.

OH KYOKO, KYOKO. I'M IN FAVOR OF KISSING LADIES' HANDS...

...AFTER ALL, ONE MUST START SOMEWHERE.

LYNX, HELP BŌ UP OFF THE FLOOR AND LEAVE THE ROOM.

鮎川まとか

"KYOKO, YOU AND THE ASSASSINS THAT I EMPLOY ARE THE FINEST FIGHTING AND KILLING MACHINES IN THIS COUNTRY."

MORGAN ENTERPRISES

THIS GROUP OF NINJAS AND HIT-MEN YOU'RE A PART OF IS CAMOUFLAGED BY MY BUSINESS FIRM, MORGAN ENTERPRISES.

I DON'T KNOW IF THIS ORGANIZATION HAS ANYTHING TO DO WITH IT, BUT SOME-ONE WITH A SAMURAI SWORD KILLED ONE OF OUR MEN, **RODNEY KANE** THIS EVENING.

THIS SWORD WIELDING KILLER MAY HAVE KNOWN THAT RODNEY WAS PART OF THIS ORGANIZATION OR MAYBE THE KILLING COULD BE A PERSONAL MATTER.

A YOUNG GIRL, **JOAN HARLOWE** WAS WITH RODNEY AT THE TIME OF THE MURDER. FOR SOME REASON, THE GIRL WAS NOT HARMED.

JOAN HARLOWE?...

YES. I UNDERSTAND THAT SHE'S A FRIEND OF YOURS.

THAT'S RIGHT. BUT I HAD NO IDEA SHE KNEW ONE OF OUR PEOPLE.

WELL, SHE DID. BUT WITH YOU BEING A FRIEND OF HERS...

...WELL, THAT CAN WORK TO OUR ADVANTAGE.

RIGHT NOW, JOAN IS AT HOME WITH A POLICE BODYGUARD. I WANT YOU TO CASUALLY FIND OUT WHAT THIS KILLER LOOKED LIKE. SHE WAS TOO AFRAID TO GIVE A DESCRIPTION TO THE POLICE, BUT MAYBE SHE'LL TALK TO YOU.

THAT WAY, I MAY FIND OUT IF HE WAS PART OF ANOTHER LEAGUE OF ASSASSINS JUST BY HIS CLOTHING AND APPEARANCE DESCRIPTION.

GO HOME AND CHANGE AND THEN GO TO JOAN HARLOWE'S HOME. FIND OUT AS MUCH INFORMATION AS YOU CAN. GO-KIGEN YO!

JOAN HARLOWE'S APARTMENT...

"YOKO! I'M SO GLAD TO SEE YOU! ¿SOS!-

DID YOU HEAR WHAT HAPPENED? IT WAS SO HORRIBLE!

YES, I HEARD. ARE YOU ALLRIGHT?

I--I'M GETTING THERE. HI LUCKY! HOW'S "YOKO TREATING YA?

OH, I'M SORRY FOR BEING SO IGNORANT...

Mee-Meowr.~

moi

...I FORGOT TO INTRODUCE YOU TO ONE ANOTHER.

KYOKO, THIS IS OFFICER DOUG JORDAN. HE'S STAYING WITH ME THIS EVENING TO MAKE SURE I'M O.K.

HIA'DOIN?

FINE, THANK YOU.

DOUG IS ALSO AN OLD HIGH SCHOOL FRIEND OF MINE!

HOW DID IT HAPPEN, JOAN? I NEVER DID FIND OUT THE WHOLE STORY.

I--I DON'T REALLY KNOW IF THERE'S MUCH TO TELL, BECAUSE IT ALL HAPPENED SO FAST.

I MET RODNEY KANE A FEW DAYS AGO AT "POPCORN'S" AND HE ASKED ME IF HE COULD TREAT ME TO A MOVIE LATER IN THE WEEK.

I THOUGHT HE WAS A FAIRLY NICE GUY---

---SO I SAID YES.

鮎川まとか

KYOKO THINKS TO HERSELF, "THAT FAIRLY NICE GUY WAS ONE THE MOST EFFICIENT ASSASSINS AT THE ORGANIZATION!"

ANYWAY, WHILE LEAVING THE MOVIE, WE WERE WALKING ALONG A QUIET SIDE STREET WHEN HE CAME OUT OF NOWHERE!

RODNEY SEEMED AS SHOCKED AS I WAS, BUT HE ALSO LOOKED SLIGHTLY REMINISCENT... LIKE HE KNEW THE MAN!

THEN BEFORE WE HAD A CHANCE TO RUN.., OR ANYTHING... THE MASKED MAN DREW THIS SWORD AND.... AND...;choke!;

Kimono Re

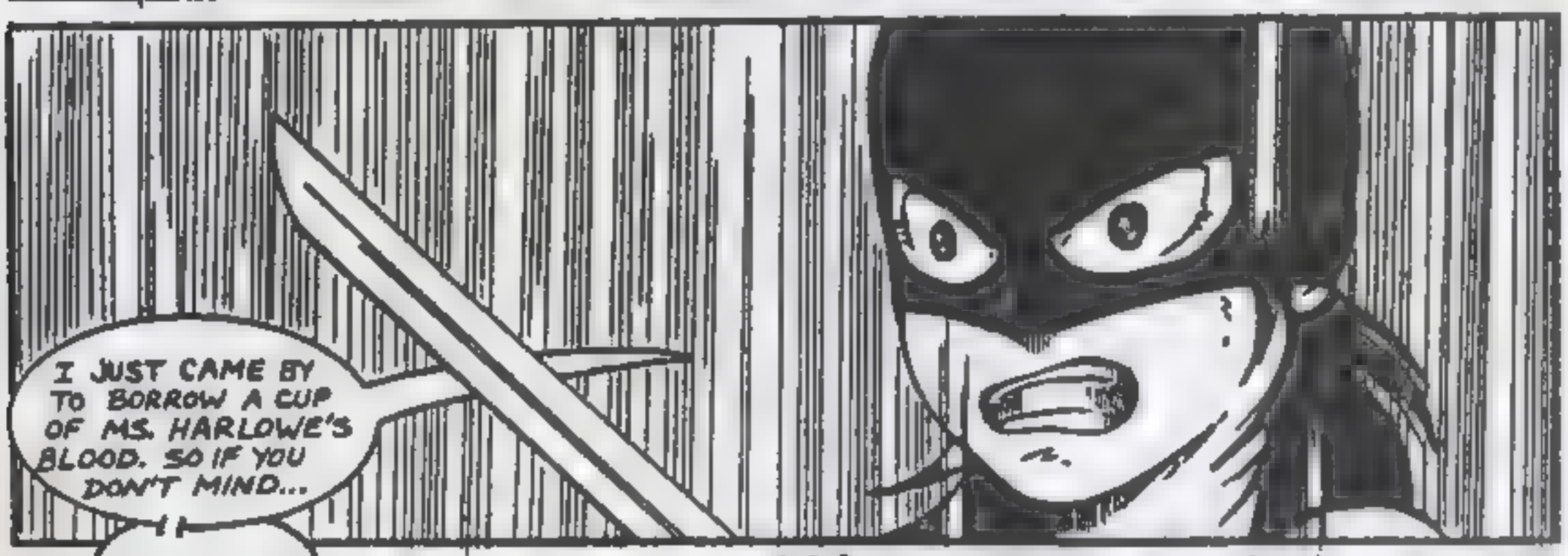
WHAT I DON'T UNDERSTAND IS WHY HE DIDN'T KILL ME? HHE SLAUGHTERED RODNEY BEFORE MY EYES, THEN HE JUST RAN 'OFF.

cést

WHAT THE?!..

鮎川まとか

GOMEN KUDASAI... I DIDN'T WANT TO INTERRUPT THIS NICE CONVERSATION---
---BUT I COULDN'T HELP HEARING YOU GIRLS TALKING ABOUT ME...
...AND I CAN'T STAND BEING TALKED ABOUT BEHIND MY BACK.
BUT, JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE RUDE DOESN'T MEAN I SHOULD BE RUDE. LET ME INTRODUCE MYSELF...



NEXT ISSUE: SCRATCHED

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THE APARTMENT OF JOAN HARLOWE...

I-I'M ONLY GOING TO COUNT TO THREE! IF YOU DON'T DROP THAT SWORD---

--I'LL SHOOT!

VEITCH

THAT, I'D TRULY LOVE TO SEE, MY FRIEND.

THIS POOR MAN IS SHAKING ALLOVER! HE'S SCARED AS HELL! THAT'S ONE THING WE DON'T NEED..

MR X

K-KYOKO!... THAT'S H-HIM! OH MY GOSH, IT'S HIM!

THE ASSASSIN: EAGLE CLAW.

THE PROTECTOR: DOUG JORDAN, P.P.D.

THE BYSTANDER: KYOKO SHIDARA.

EVEN WITH A GUN, DOUG'S NO MATCH FOR THAT KILLER.

THE TARGET: JOAN HARLOWE.

I'VE GOT TO DO SOME-THING!

ONE---

--T-TWO...

Oh please...

鮎川まとか

GET BACK, DOUG!!

HEY! WHAT THE HELL DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING!?!

MR.

鮎川まとか

WRITTEN AND PENCILLED BY JJ REGGIE BYERS JJ-X
INKED BY CHRIS KALNICK
CO-PLOT BY NEIL D. VOKES

鮎川まとか

WUUUFF!

AARRG!

<Y-YOU ARE VERY SKILLED, GIRL...> *

<BY WHAT NAME DO YOU GO BY?>

*TRANSLATED FROM JAPANESE...

<MY NAME IS KYOKO, MURDERER.>

<WHY DID YOU KILL RODNEY KANE?>

鮎川まとか

〈I WAS ASSIGNED BY MY SUPERIOR. I THOUGHT MY MISSION WAS OVER...〉
〈...BUT I WAS ORDERED TO ELIMINATE THE BLONDE ALSO, SINCE SHE COULD IDENTIFY ME.〉
〈BUT NOW THAT YOU AND THE COP ARE HERE, IT SEEMS THAT I MUST MAKE SCARCE OF YOU ALL!〉
WHY ARE THEY BOTH TALKING IN JAPANESE?
〈THAT'S A PRETTY GOOD JOKE MY FRIEND, CONSIDERING YOU'RE THE ONE WHOSE ON THE FLOOR BLEEDING!〉
〈YOU ARE IN NO POSITION TO MAKE THREATS! WHY DID YOUR MASTER WANT KANE DEAD?〉
〈KANE WAS ONCE A PART OF THE SAME GROUP THAT I AM. HE LEFT THIS GROUP WHICH IS IN JAPAN, IN SPITE OUR MASTER'S WISHES.〉
〈HE CAME HERE TO AMERICA WHERE HE JOINED A RIVAL ORGANIZATION.〉
〈I WAS SENT HERE TO END HIS LIFE FOR SUCH INSOLENCE〉
IS THIS WHAT MORGAN WOULD DO TO ME IF I LEFT HIS ORGANIZATION WITHOUT HIS CONSENT? WOULD HE HAVE ME HUNTED DOWN AND KILLED?
〈I HAVE REALLY SAID QUITE ENOUGH. I ONLY ANSWERED YOUR SIMPLE QUESTIONS BECAUSE YOU ARE OF KIN...
...KIKU.〉

Ah! IT SEEMS THAT I'VE STRUCK A MEMORY NERVE! IT'S ABOUT TIME!

K-KIKU?!?

I'VE GOT TO LEAVE SO HERE'S A GIFT TO REMEMBER ME BY.

SOME KIND OF SMOKE! KOFF! KOFF KOFF!!

COUGH!! COUGH!!

COUGH!

HAK! HAK!

HE WENT BACK OUT THE WINDOW!

GONE...

he's gone! with three stars in his leg, he got away that quickly.

I SHOULD HAVE RECOGNIZED HIM FROM THE START...!

K-KYOKO?...

...YOU ACTED AS IF YOU KNEW THAT ASSASSIN.

WHO WAS HE?

NOT ONLY THAT... BUT HE SEEMED TO HAVE KNOWN YOU PRETTY WELL, KYOKO. AND WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING WITH THROWING STARS?!?

...well?

I'M SORRY KYOKO, BUT I'M AFRAID I'M GOING TO HAVE TO PLACE YOU UNDER ARREST. THERE'S A LOT MORE TO THIS ASSASSIN BIT, AND IT SEEMS THAT YOU CAN SUPPLY A LOT OF ANSWERS.

!

NOW WAIT JUST A DAMN MINUTE, DOUG! FROM WHAT I SAW, SHE SAVED YOUR LIFE AS WELL AS MINE!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN? I HAD THE SITUATION WELL IN CONTROL, 'TIL SHE INTERFERED!!!

HA!!

I SURE DON'T CALL SWEATY PALMS, A SHAKEY GUN AND JITTERY NERVES 'IN CONTROL!' YOU WERE SO SCARED, YOUR TEETH WERE CHATTERING! IF KYOKO HAD NOT DONE WHAT SHE DID, I DON'T KNOW WHAT WOULD'VE HAPPENED!!!

SHRtb#1

鮎川まとか

I'VE KNOWN KYOKO FOR A YEAR AND I JUST KNOW SHE'S NOT TIED UP IN THIS MESS!

SH-SHE'S TOO GOOD OF A PERSON!

c'est moi

A YEAR SURE AIN'T A HELL OF A LONG TIME.

WELL, LET ME PUT IT THIS WAY: YOU HAUL HER IN, AND I'LL REPORT TO YOUR SUPERIOR THAT YOU'RE NOT COMPETENT ENOUGH TO BE A POLICEMAN...

... CONSIDERING THE WAY YOU WERE SHAKING IN YOUR BOOTS!!!

YOU DAMN RIGHT!! I...I WAS... SCARED!..

...Y-YOU SAW THAT BIG SWORD HE H-HAD.. ANYWAY... UH... ER...

...AND uh... ...um...

dammit Joan. I'm only going to do this because you're a close friend...

you win.

THANK YOU, JOAN. YOU'RE A WONDERFUL FRIEND. NOW I'LL TRY TO EXPLAIN WHAT IS GOING ON.

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THE REASON I WAS **ABLE** TO TALK WITH EAGLE CLAW IS BECAUSE HE LIKE MYSELF IS JAPANESE.

BUT WHAT WERE YOU SAYING TO ONE ANOTHER?

c'est moi

I ASKED HIM WHY HE KILLED RODNEY KANE. HE TOLD ME THAT KANE WAS A MEMBER OF THE SAME JAPANESE CRIME ORGANIZATION THAT HE IS.

RODNEY LEFT THAT GROUP WITHOUT PERMISSION AND CAME HERE TO AMERICA TO JOIN A RIVAL ORGANIZATION.

EAGLE CLAW WAS SENT HERE TO KILL HIM FOR DOING SO.

HE WANTS TO KILL YOU, JOAN, BECAUSE YOU WITNESSED THE MURDER.

THEN THAT MEANS JOAN'S IN CONSTANT DANGER! HE WON'T STOP GOIN' AFTER HER 'TILL SHE'S DEAD!

JOAN ISN'T IN ANY MORE DANGER. I'LL SEE TO THAT.

OH? AND WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?.. IRON FIST?"

NO. I JUST REALIZED THAT EAGLE CLAW IS...

... MY BROTHER.

鮎川まとか

While KYOKO QUIETLY LEAVES JOAN'S APARTMENT TO GO HOME AND GATHER HER THOUGHTS, WE GO ACROSS THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA TO MORGAN ENTERPRISES.
THIS BUSINESS FRONT IS OWNED BY TAO MORGAN, THE HEAD OF "THE ORGANIZATION", A GROUP OF PROFESSIONAL ASSASSINS AND SO CALLED "NINJA" BASED IN THE CITY OF BROTHERLY LOVE.

SIR, MAY I BE SO FOWARD AS TO SAY THAT I'M WORRIED ABOUT HER?

KYOKO? WHY?

HAVEN'T YOU NOTICED THAT SINCE SHE'S STARTED WORKING FOR YOU THAT SHE HASN'T BEEN ON A TERMINATION ASSIGNMENT?
I MEAN, WE ALL HAVE OUR "TRACK RECORDS" FOR KILLING EXCEPT HER. I WAS JUST WONDERING THAT SHE MAY BE TOO SOFT TO BE ONE OF US.

"I HOPE KYOKO GOT INFORMATION FROM THAT HARLOWE GIRL ABOUT THAT ASSASSIN..."

"I'M HOPING IT ISN'T SOMEONE FROM THE..."

"...NO...I WON'T EVEN THINK OF IT. IMPOSSIBLE."

LYNX, LYNX. DON'T BE SO CONCERNED. I COMPLETELY BELIEVE IN SHURIKEN'S ABILITIES. IF SHE WERE GIVEN AN ASSIGNMENT TO KILL SOMEONE, I'M SURE SHE COULD CARRY IT OUT WITHOUT FAIL. I THINK THAT SINCE SHE'S THE ONLY WOMAN IN THE ORGANIZATION, AND THAT SHE'S SHARP, YOU FEEL INTIMIDATED BY THE FACT THAT SHE COULD PROBABLY TAKE YOUR PLACE BY MY SIDE ONE DAY.

WELL? AM I CORRECT?

MORGAN ENTERPRISES

SIR, I'LL NEVER BE INFERIOR TO ANY WOMAN.

HMPH. THAT'S NOT SAYING MUCH, MY FRIEND. I KNOW MANY WOMEN WHO COULD KILL YOU AT THE DROP OF A DIME.

REMEMBER THIS: BECAUSE SHE IS AN ATTRACTIVE WOMAN DOESN'T MEAN MY JUDGEMENT OF ABILITY IS BLURRED.

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MEANWHILE, AT KYOKO'S HOME...

OH LUCKY, I CAN'T BELIEVE MY BROTHER IS AN ASSASSIN.

I-I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM IN YEARS! WHO IN JAPAN IS HE WORKING FOR?

I GUESS I'LL GO BACK TO WHERE HE JUMPED FROM JOAN'S WINDOW AND LOOK FOR SOME CLUES.

WHO AM I KIDDING? HE ALWAYS WAS THE MOST GULLIBLE BETWEEN THE TWO OF US.

I GUESS IT WAS CHILD'S PLAY FOR SOME ONE TO PAY HIM TO MURDER FOR A PROFESSION.

KYOKO..!

WHO?..

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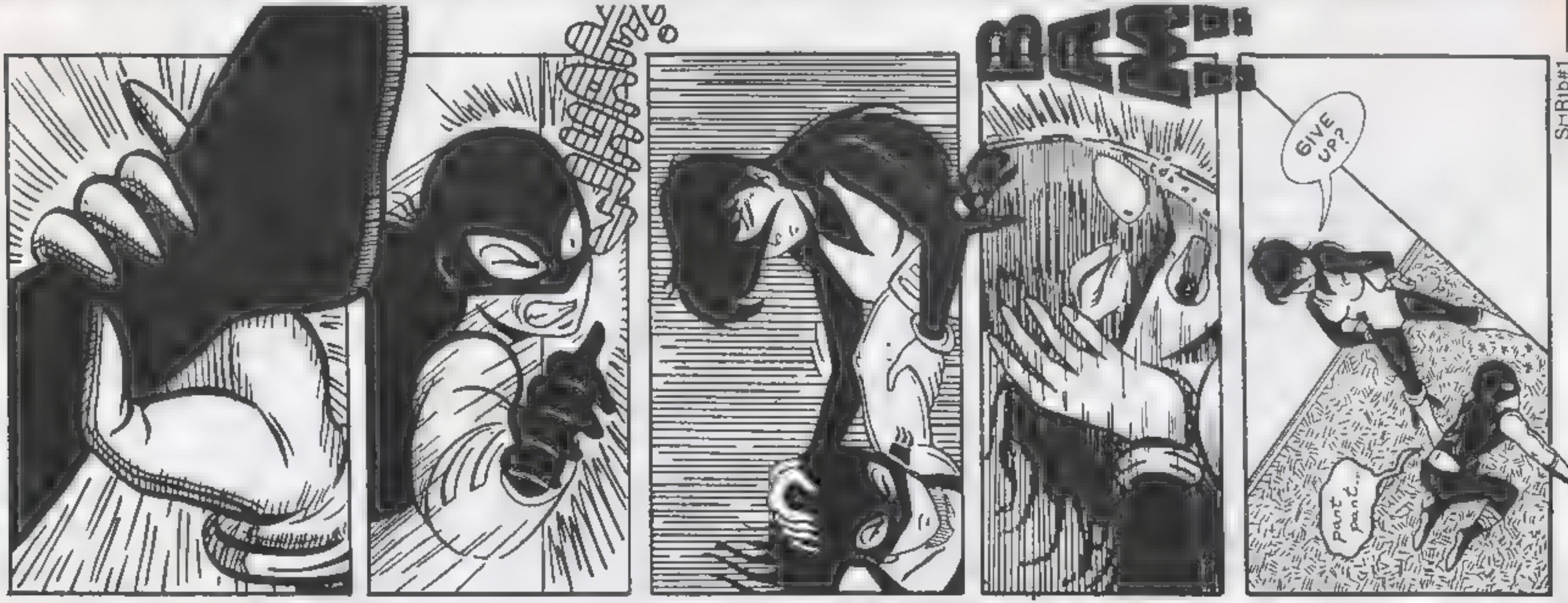
THIS ANIMAL IS MY.... BROTHER?!?


GIVE UP?
pant pant..
SHRIB#1

WELL, I GUESS YOU DO SINCE YOU AREN'T PUTTING UP ANY MORE RESISTANCE.

NOW LET'S TAKE OFF THIS HEAD DRESS, SHALL WE?

Wha?..!?! I-I DON'T BELIEVE IT! IT IS YOU!...;"

KOJI!

IT HAD TO BE YOU WHEN YOU CALLED ME KIKU. THE NICKNAME THAT ONLY YOU, FATHER AND MOTHER CALLED ME BY.

IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME, SISTER.

TOO LONG IT SEEMS. THE DEVIL'S GOTTEN A HOLD YOU.

IT SEEMS THAT HE HAS A PITCH-FORK IN YOUR REAR-END ALSO.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?!

YOU KNOW VERY WELL WHAT I MEAN. YOU'RE A PART OF "THE ORGANIZATION." THE MOST FEARED GROUP OF PROFESS-IONAL KILLERS IN THIS COUNTRY.

I MEAN, TELLING ME I'm THE 'BAD GUY' IS LIKE THE POT CALLING THE KETTLE BLACK, ISN'T IT?

NO! I NEED THE MONEY THAT THE JOB PAYS! BESIDES... I DON'T KILL ANYONE! I'M JUST SENT ON BODYGUARD ASSIGNMENTS!!

B-BUT.. LOOK AT YOU . .

I PLAN TO LEAVE THEM ANYWAY. I'M GETTING SICK OF WORKING SIDE BY SIDE WITH COLD BLOODED MURDERERS.

O-OYABUN?

YOU ARE CRAZY!!

WHY?!?

UGHN!

WAP!

KOJI...THIS IS NO GAME YOU'RE PLAYING. WORKING FOR THE YAKUZA CAN ONLY LEAD TO SELF-DESTRUCTION.

DON'T TRY TO TELL ME WHAT IS AND ISN'T GOOD FOR ME, KYOKO. I'M A GROWN MAN. BESIDES, I BELONG IN THE YAKUZA. I HAVE NO PLACE IN THE NORMAL WORLD. I'M RETURNING TO TOKYO. I'LL SPARE THE HARLOWE GIRL SINCE SHE'S YOUR FRIEND. IT'S THE MOST I CAN DO.

鮎川まとか

HMPH MAKE SURE YOU COVER
UR BUTT BEFORE YOU LEAVE,
YOU'LL END UP LIKE THE
OL I KILLED EARLIER.

RODNEY KANE UP AND
EFT WITHOUT ASKING
UR OYABUN, AND NOW HE'S
SIX FEET UNDER.

OU'RE PART OF
THE YAKUZA?!?

THE ONE AND
ONLY. I'M THEIR
OP ASSASSIN.

THE MONEY.
THE PRESTIGE.
THE THRILL.
T TO MENTION
ER FRINGE
ENIFITS.

GOODBYE
KYOKO.

鮎川まとか

KOJI PLEASE. LOOK WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO US IF FATHER COULD SEE US.

...HE'D CRY.

KYOKO. DON T BRING HIM INTO THIS I'M NOT THE SAME BROTHER YOU GREW UP WITH. NOW LET GO OF ME...

...OR YOU'LL DRAW BACK A NUB

NO.

KIKU...

SLAP

鮎川まとか

LIKE I SAID KYOKO... I'M NO LONGER YOUR LOVING BROTHER. IT'S BEST IF YOU'D JUST... DISOWN ME. THE YAKUZA HAS CHANGED ME. FOR BETTER OR WORSE, I DON'T KNOW. BUT I DO KNOW THAT I AM FOREVER IN THE SERVICE OF OUR GODFATHER, THE OYABUN AND MY MASTER KUROKAMI. I ANSWER TO NO ONE BUT THEM NO ONE!

Wakarimashita ka? *

* Do You Understand?

Well . I must take my leave

IT'S BEST THAT YOU NOT COME AFTER ME EITHER. I KNOW YOU. YOU'RE SO HARDHEADED.

Sayōnara

鮎川まとか

IT'S NOT THE VEHEMENCE OF THE SLAP THAT CAUSED KYOKO SHIDARA TO COLLAPSE, BUT THE IMPACT OF THE EVENING'S EVENTS THAT HAS TRANSPIRED. THE DEATH OF RODNEY KANE.
HER BEST FRIEND'S LIFE IS THREATENED BY THE MURDERER.
THE MURDERER BEING HER ONLY BROTHER.
IT'S OBVIOUS THAT HE'S NO LONGER THE KOJI SHIDARA SHE REMEMBERED HIM AS. HE'S TWISTED. WARPED. POSSESSED. SHE SHOULD CHASE HIM DOWN. BRING HIM TO JUSTICE. JUSTICE? HA. HA. VERY FUNNY. AFTER TURNING HIM IN, SHE SHOULD TURN IN HERSELF. ACTUALLY, SHE'S NO BETTER THAN HE IS. NO. SHE WON'T GO AFTER HIM... AT LEAST NOT NOW. SHE'S TOO DRAINED.
"HOW LONG I CRY TILL THE RIVER RUNS DRY?"

鮎川まとか

JAPAN AIR LINES

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN
WELCOME TO JAPAN AIR LINES.

WE ARE EN ROUTE TO TOKYO, JAPAN FROM PHILADELPHIA. WE INTEND TO MAKE YOUR FLIGHT AN ENJOYABLE ONE. OUR FLIGHT ATTENDANTS ARE HERE TO SERVE YOU.

SO PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CALL ON US ANY TIME.

MIKO

HERE I SIT ON A PLANE HEADED FOR MY HOME. SEARCHING FOR MY EITHER CRAZED OR BRAINWASHED BROTHER. A MURDERER. BUT HE'S MY ONLY BROTHER. THE QUESTION IN MY MIND IS ONCE I FIND HIM, IF I FIND HIM...

..WHAT WILL I DO?

KOJI

YAKUZA

STORY and PENCILS by Reggie Byers

and INTRODUCING Michio Okamura -INKER-

CO-CREATED BY NEIL D. VOKES

ASST. -PLOT- STEVE WILLIAMS

MY MOTHER LIVES THERE. I WISH TO SEE HER.

I SEE.

DID YOU GET ANY INFORMATION CONCERNING RODNEY KANE'S KILLER?

NONE, SIR.

MY FRIEND JOAN HARLOWE SAID THAT SHE COULDN'T TELL WHAT THE ASSASSIN LOOKED LIKE BECAUSE IT WAS DARK.

MMHM. ALLRIGHT KYOKO. WELL DONE. YOU MAY TAKE YOUR REQUESTED LEAVE.

THANK YOU, MR. MORGAN.

MORGAN KNEW I WAS LYING TO HIM ABOUT WHY I WAS GOING TO JAPAN AND ABOUT THE INFORMATION I WAS SUPPOSED TO GET.
AS I LEFT THE ROOM, I COULD FEEL LYNX' EYES ON MY BACK. I COULD ALSO FEEL HIS DAMNED INFLUENCE ON MORGAN.

THEN IT HAPPENED.

OH YES, KYOKO...

"... WHEN YOU RETURN FROM JAPAN..."

"... I HAVE A TERMINATION ASSIGNMENT FOR YOU TO CARRY OUT."

鮎川まとか

NEW YORK.
SOLD OUT!
JOAN HARLO

I HOPE KYOKO WILL BE ALLRIGHT. I'm SO AFRAID FOR HER

Yatsu
I JUST HOPE SHE CAN GET HER BROTHER WITHOUT CROSSING THE YAKUZA
FROM WHAT SHE S TOLD ME, THE YAKUZA IS SORT OF JAPAN'S OWN MAFIA THAT'S SCARY BUT WHAT'S MORE OF A THREAT?...
... EAGLE-CLAW OR THE JAPANESE MAFIA?
GOOD THING KYOKO DIDN'T TELL DAVE ANYWHERE NEAR AS MUCH AS SHE CONFIDED IN ME. IF HE FOUND OUT EVERYTHING KYOKO'S ACTUALLY INTO, HE'D ARREST HER...

..AND PROBABLY ME, TOO.
JOAN, YOU'RE ON IN SIX MINUTES
THANKS, RIKKI
LORD, PLEASE PROTECT MY FRIEND.

鮎川まとか

SEVERAL HOURS LATER AT TOKYO'S FINEST SHOPPING AREA, THE GINZA...

EVERYTHING'S THE SAME. THE BUSTLE OF THE [illegible], THE...

I SUPPOSE THE FIRST PLACE TO VISIT WOULD BE MY AUNT OKĀ

TOSHIBA

北下鉄

40

AUNT OKĀ. MY MOTHER'S YOUNGER AND ONLY SISTER

... WELL, MAYBE THERE ARE SOME DIFFERENCES.

鮎川まとか

<KYOKO-SAN! MY NIECE! WHY DIDN'T YOU CALL OR WRITE TO TELL ME YOU WERE COMING?>

<THANK YOU, OKĀ SAN. IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU. YOU LOOK SO YOUNG! WHAT'S YOUR SECRET?>

<AH, THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT IT IS, AND WHAT IT WILL REMAIN... A SECRET!>

HA HA HA!!

<SO WHAT BRINGS YOU TO TOKYO? ARE YOU VISITING ME FOR A FEW WEEKS?>

<AS YOUR FELLOW AMERICANS SAY, "I WOULD'VE BAKED A CAKE!" I DON'T BELIEVE THIS! COME IN! COME IN!>

<KYOKO? WHAT IS THE MATTER?

鮎川まとか

AN ASSASSIN?!? KOJI?! AND HE WORKS FOR THE YAKUZA?

KYOKO, PLEASE! TAKE MY ADVICE AND FORGET ABOUT HIM! IF HE'S AS RUTHLESS AS YOU SAY HE IS... HE'S BEYOND HELP WHAT CAN YOU POSSIBLY DO TO MAKE HIM CHANGE HIS WAYS?

I WAS HOPING TO BRING HIM BACK TO AMERICA. THERE HE WOULD FACE JUSTICE.

KYOKO, LISTEN TO ME THIS IS NOT SOME "CAT'S-EYE" CARTOON! YOU AREN'T SOME SUPERWOMAN!

IF HE DOES NOT KILL YOU, THE YAKUZA WILL!

DAMMIT, OKA! HE'S MY ONLY BROTHER! I'VE GOT TO DO SOME-THING! BESIDES, HE DOESN'T HAVE IT IN HIM TO KILL ME!

WHAT IN HELL MAKES YOU THINK HE WON'T KILL YOU? YOU DO NOT KNOW!

LET IT GO, KYOKO. LET IT GO

HE'S NEVER BEEN RIGHT FROM THE START. THERE'S ALWAYS BEEN SOME-THING WRONG.

I'VE GOT TO GO. I'LL CALL YOU LATER, TONIGHT

鮎川まとか

LATER THAT EVENING, KYOKO TAKES A TAXI TO THE HOTEL WHERE SHE IS STAYING.

SORRY ABOUT THIS TRAFFIC, PEOPLE. IT'S USUALLY LIKE THIS AT THIS TIME OF THE EVENING. IT WILL BE QUITE A WAIT

IT IS ALRIGHT. DON'T APOLOGIZE FOR THE TRAFFIC JAM. IT ISN'T YOUR FAULT. I'M IN NO REAL HURRY.

I JUST HOPE THIS VERY PRETTY LADY ISN'T IN A RUSH EITHER.

MISS?...

Uh..who me? oh.. NO, I'M NOT IN A REAL HURRY EITHER.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONCERN

WHAT'S THAT NOISE GOING ON OUT THERE?

鮎川まとか

"WHAT'S THIS? IN THAT OTHER LANE THE TRAFFIC ISN'T MOVING BECAUSE OF THAT NISSON UP FRONT. I WONDER WHY IT'S JUST SITTING THERE IDLING?"

HONK! HONK!

MOVE IT UP THERE! GET THAT DAMNED THING OUT OF THE WAY BEFORE I THROW IT OUT OF THE WAY!!! HEAR ME?!?

"SOMEONE'S GETTING OUT OF THE CAR!"

"THE MAN WHO GOT OUT IS TAKING HIS SHIRT OFF? ..UH4?"

鮎川まとか

" DOES HE INTEND TO FIGHT THAT BIG TRUCK DRIVER?"

" I GUESS... ..HE IS!"

" OH MY!.. HIS BACK!.. IT'S BEAUTIFULLY TATTOOED WITH A DRAGON!"

" AND HE'S SHOWING IT TO THE TRUCK DRIVER!"

I DON'T UNDERSTAND!

I DO

I-I'M DEEPLY SORRY FOR MY OUTBURST. P-PLEASE FORGIVE ME.

鮎川まとか

WHY DID HE BACK DOWN TO THAT LITTLE GUY? I DON'T SEE WHY...

THE YAKUZA.

THE YAKUZA?

YES. FROM THE DECOR OF THE TATTOO ON HIS BACK, IT SIGNIFIES THAT HE'S A MEMBER. NO ONE WANTS TO FOOL WITH THAT. YOU WOULD BE A FOOL TO DO SO. THAT MAN WAS TOO FLAMBOYANT WITH HIS STATUS.

WELL, I WOULDN'T LET THAT PUNY GUY INTIMIDATE ME WITH A CUTE TATTOO.

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND. THAT TATTOO REPRESENTS 100,000 OR MORE, NOT JUST ONE MAN WITH A BAD ATTITUDE. THEY ARE QUITE A POWER TO BE RECKONED WITH. PROSTITUTION, NARCOTICS, PORNOGRAPHY, GAMBLING, EXTORTION EVEN ASSASSINATION. THEY COVER A GREAT DEAL OF CRIME WITHIN NIPPON'S BOUNDERIES AND BEYOND.

ASSASSINATION. HOW DO YOU KNOW SO MUCH ABOUT THE YAKUZA?

I STUDY. I LIKE TO BE AWARE OF THE WORLD AROUND ME.

I SEE.

I'D ALSO LIKE TO BE MORE AWARE OF THE YOUNG LADY I'M CONVERSING WITH.

OH! MY NAME IS KYOKO KYOKO SHIDARA

PLEASED TO MEET YOU KYOKO. I'm MASAO KITAMURA.

ACTUALLY I'M NOT SURPRISED THAT YOU ASKED ME OUT. YOU SEEM LIKE THE SUAVE 'LADY-KILLER' TYPE.

SAKE HOUSE

WELL I'M SURPRISED THAT YOU ALLOWED TO TAKE YOU OUT WITH THAT IDEA OF ME.

NO. I'M HERE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE.

SOMEONE WHO'S INVOLVED WITH THE YAKUZA.

KYOKO, NO.

DIDN'T I TELL YOU THEY ARE NOT TO BE FOOLED WITH? WHO IN THE YAKUZA ARE YOU AFTER?

SHE'S THE SISTER OF EAGLE-CLAW?

MASAO? IS ANYTHING THE MATTER?

鮎川まとか

THAT'S NOT GOING TO KEEP ME FROM ACCEPTING A FREE DINNER.

KYOKO...JUST WHY ARE YOU HERE FROM AMERICA? VACATION?

NO. IT'S MY BROTHER. HE'S AN ASSASSIN FOR SOMEONE CALLED KUROKAMI OR "BLACK HAIR." MY BROTHER IS KNOWN AS EAGLE-CLAW. AND I'VE COME TO GET HIM.

ARE YOU WITH THE LAW?

N-NO IT'S NOTHING I WAS JUST--

--huh?

鮎川まとか

WHAT'S GOING ON? WHY AM I STARTING TO GET ODD VIBES ABOUT MR. KITAMURA? AND WHO ARE THOSE MEN HE'S TALKING TO?

KYOKO... I'M REALLY SORRY, BUT I MUST LEAVE. MY... ..uh.. BUSINESS NEEDS ME FOR AN URGENT MEETING. MAY I CALL YOU TONIGHT.?

I SUPPOSE SO... BUT...

THANK YOU, DOLL. DON'T DO ANYTHING RASH CONCERNING YOUR BROTHER. I MUST TALK WITH YOU.

SOMETHING ISN'T RIGHT. I JUST HOPE MY SUSPICIONS ABOUT MASAO AREN'T RIGHT. I'VE **GOT** TO FOLLOW THEM.

BESIDES THAT.. "MR. SUAVE AND SMOOTH" LEFT ME HOLDING THE BILL.

鮎川まとか

ON THE FAR SIDE OF THE CITY NEAR THE EDGE OF THE ARA-KAWA RIVER---

WHY MASAO? WHY IS IT THAT YOU CAN'T SEEM TO KEEP QUIET?

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I DEMAND YOU TAKE ME TO KUROKAMI!

TOO LATE FOR THAT YOU KNOW THAT IF YOU ARE SEEN TALKING OF BUSINESS TO OUTSIDERS YOU WOULD BE DEALT WITH APPROPRIATELY.

BUT I SAID NOTHING OF ANY IMPORTANCE TO THAT YOUNG LADY!

OH REALLY? THEN WHY DID SHE MENTION EAGLE-CLAW? NO ONE KNOWS OF THAT CRAZED BASTARD BUT OUR ORGANIZATION ALONE! WHAT DOES SHE HAVE TO DO WITH HIM?

Well?...

HM. I THOUGHT SO. WELL MASAO, SINCE YOU ENJOY KEEPING SECRETS FROM YOUR COMRADES...

...IT SEEMS THAT IT'S TIME TO SAY FAREWELL.

鮎川まとか

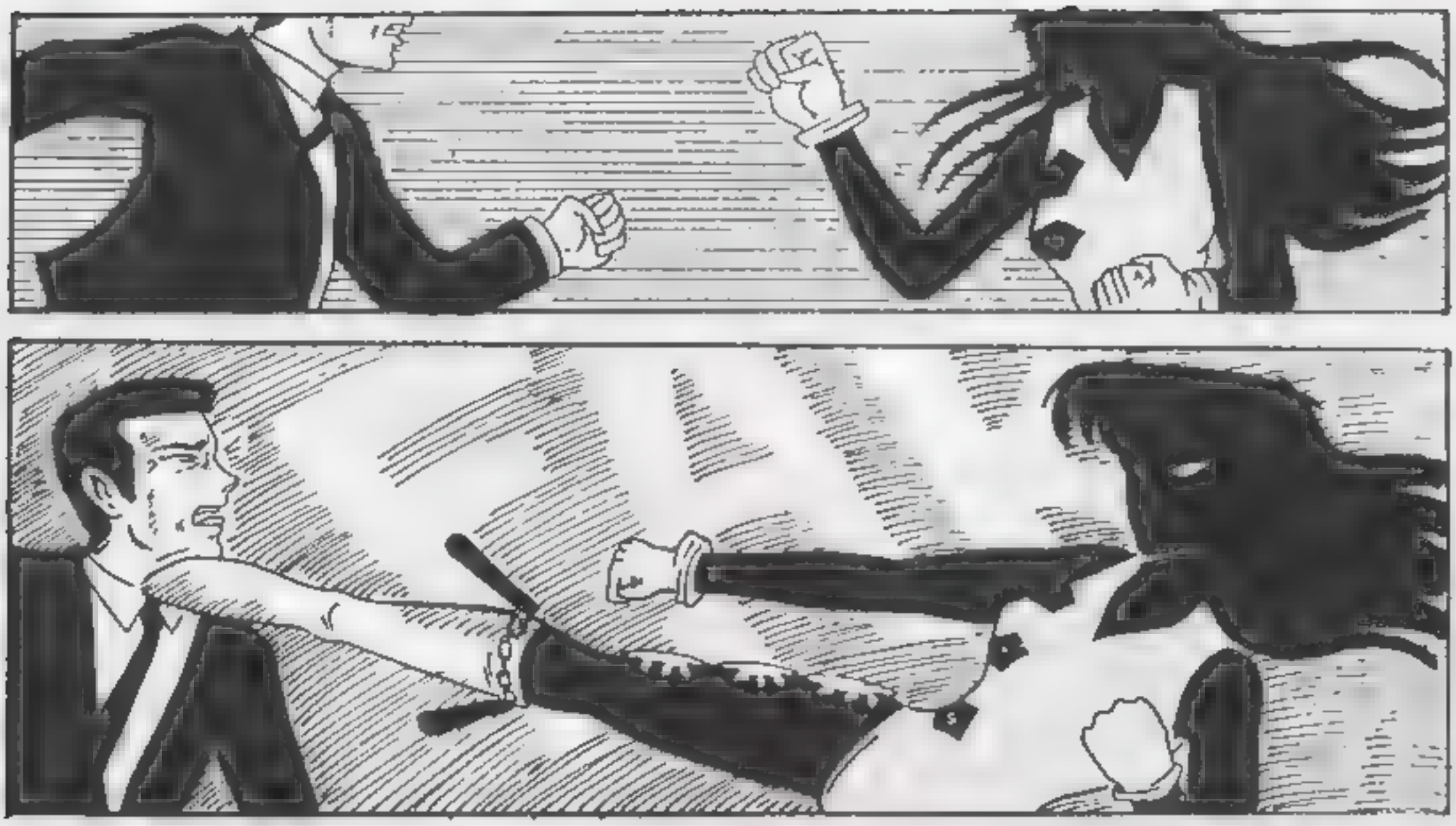
--GAK!---

GET AWAY FROM HIM...
... NOW.

W-WHO IN HELL IS SHE?!?
GAK

WELL, WHOEVER SHE IS, SHE'LL BE WISHING SHE WERE NEVER ALIVE!

鮎川まとか



SHAtb#1

鮎川まとか

MASAO! ARE YOU ALRIGHT?

KYOKO... I TOLD YOU NOT TO FOOL WITH THE YAKUZA.

YAKUZA? Y-YOU'RE A PART OF IT?

YES. BUT WHAT'RE YOU DOING IN THAT SUIT? WHO ARE YOU?

I. uh.

YOU CAN EXPLAIN LATER. SO WILL I FOR THAT MATTER. HELP ME UP, WILL YOU? WE'VE GOT TO LEAVE HERE NOW!

WHY WERE THOSE MEN..?

I SORT OF FELL FROM GRACE, I SUPPOSE. UF..!:

DOES IT HURT?

ONLY WHEN I LAUGH

MASAO, YOU WILL NOT WANT TO LAUGH WHEN WE ARE FINISHED WITH YOU. I'm SO DISAPPOINTED IN YOUR ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE SECRECY OF OUR ORGANIZATION.

!

OH NO.

鮎川まとか

GREETINGS MS. SHIDARA. I AM KUROKAMI. WELCOME TO OUR LITTLE GATHERING. SINCE YOU WERE NOT INVITED, I REGRET TO SAY THAT YOU WILL NOT BE HERE VERY LONG
OLD HABITS DIE HARD EH, SIS? NOW YOU ARE GOING TO DIE RIGHT ALONG WITH THEM.
TO BE CONTINUED

AS I WAS SAYING, MS. SHIDARA, WE *CANNOT* POSSIBLY LET YOU LIVE, LET ALONE *LEAVE*.

鮎川まとか

OF COURSE, WE CAN *POSSIBLY* BARGAIN. NOW IF YOU DECIDED TO *JOIN* OUR LITTLE GROUP...

FORGET IT! YOU MAY AS WELL KILL ME NOW, MR. KUROKAMI, OR AT LEAST, *ATTEMPT* TO.

"*ATTEMPT TO.*" HEH HEH. I LIKE THAT. YOUR STATEMENT MAY BE TRUE, IF YOU'RE *AS GOOD AS YOUR BROTHER* HERE.

WELL, I'M NOT VERY GOOD AT *KILLING*, I'M AFRAID.

鮎川まとか

OH COME NOW, MS. SHIDARA, OR *SHURIKEN* AS THEY CALL YOU. WE KNOW YOU'RE A PART OF THAT SO-CALLED ALLIANCE OF TRAINED KILLERS CALLED *THE ORGANIZATION*. IF YOU WEREN'T CAPABLE OF *KILLING*, THEN YOU WOULDN'T BE A *PART* OF THEM.

RODNEY KANE WAS ONE OF US UNTIL HE DECIDED TO *LEAVE* AND JOIN YOUR ORGANIZATION. OF COURSE, *KOJI* HERE TOOK CARE OF *THAT* PROBLEM.

KOJI, *PLEASE*... *DO* SOMETHING. *HELP* ME.

KYOKO, I *TOLD* YOU NOT TO FOLLOW ME. I TOLD YOU EVERYTHING THAT I AM *NOW* AND WHAT I AM *NO LONGER*. STILL YOU *PERSISTED* IN BADGERING ME AND MY NEW LIFE. *WHY?*

BECAUSE YOU'RE MY BROTHER AND I *LOVE* YOU.

I NO LONGER LOVE YOU.

KUROKAMI...! YOU...

鮎川まとか

SHURIKEN PIN-UP #1

鮎川まとか

鮎川まとか

CREATED, WRITTEN and PENCILLED by:
REGGIE BYERS
CO-PLOT BY:
NEIL D. VOKES
* * *
INKED BY:
MICHIO OKAMURA
LETTERED BY:
TOM ADDIS
KRAK!
UGGNNH
WOO!

鮎川まとか

HOLD STILL, SIR. THERE'S SOMETHING ON YOUR FACE...
LET ME GET IT OFF FOR YOU!

鮎川まとか

YOU ARE A PITIFUL EXAMPLE FOR A HUMAN BEING! HOW DARE YOU BRAINWASH MY BROTHER AND LORD KNOWS WHOEVER ELSE JUST TO BOW DOWN TO YOUR DAMNED WILL?

HAVING PEOPLE KILLED FOR REASONS AS SIMPLE AS INSULTING YOUR PERSON OR LEAVING YOUR "PROTECTIVE" WING!

YOU OF ALL PEOPLE DESERVE TO DIE.

LOOK AT YOUR MEN! THEY'RE AFRAID TO EVEN MOVE AGAINST ME!

鮎川まとか

LITTLE GIRL, YOU DO NOT BEGIN TO FATHOM THE POWER OF MY POSITION.

I COULD HAVE YOUR WHOLE FAMILY EXTERMINATED IN A DAY--THAT IS, IF YOU HAD A FAMILY.

MY MEN AND EAGLE CLAW DO NOT ACT UNLESS I SAY SO. BECAUSE OF WHAT YOU DID TO ME, IT IS *YOU* WHO WILL DIE. EVERYONE EXCEPT EAGLE CLAW...

KILL HER!

EH?

THIS WILL PROVE TO BE INTERESTING.

鮎川まとか

鮎川まとか

A FINE PHILADELPHIA RESTAU-RANT...

I'M GLAD YOU WERE ABLE TO COME TO LUNCH WITH ME, JOAN.

ANYTHING FOR A BUDDY, DOUG. WHAT'S WRONG?

IT'S JUST THAT I WAS CONSIDERING LEAVING THE POLICE FORCE.

LEAVE? WHY? DOES IT HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE INCIDENT WITH EAGLE CLAW?

YEAH, I'VE BEEN THINKIN' OF WHAT YOU SAID--ABOUT ME BEING INCOMPETENT.

DOUG... I-I'M SORRY FOR WHAT I SAID.

I WAS DESPERATE. I JUST DIDN'T WANT YOU TO ARREST KYOKO. I JUST KNEW SHE HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH HIM.

YEAH, BUT SHE *IS* HIS SISTER.

ANYWAY... I FEEL THAT THE WAY I PERFORMED THAT EVENING MADE ME REALIZE THAT I'M NOT...

STOP IT!

DAMMIT, GIVE YOURSELF TIME TO GROW! THAT WAS PROBABLY THE FIRST PIECE OF ACTION YOU'VE ENCOUNTERED SINCE YOU JOINED THE FORCE A FEW MONTHS AGO! WHERE'S YOUR DETERMINA-TION?

HE LOST IT ALONG WITH HIS NERVES.

鮎川まとか

SORRY TO HAVE *INTERRUPTED* YOUR CONVERSATION, FOLKS, BUT WE JUST WANTED TO ASK DOUG A FEW QUESTIONS.

LIKE *WHY* YOU DIDN'T ARREST KYOKO SHIDARA FOR CARRYING CONCEALED WEAPONS? WE SAW IN YOUR REPORT THAT SHE WAS USING THEM FOR SELF-PROTECTION.

THAT'S ALL WELL AND GOOD, BUT *WHY* DID SHE HAVE *STARS* ON HER PERSON IN THE *FIRST PLACE?*

鮎川まとか

YEAH... AND ABOUT WHAT YOU JUST SAID ABOUT THAT NINJA OR WHATEVER HE WAS... HE'S SHIDARA'S SISTER?

IF THAT'S SO, SHIDARA COULD BE POSSIBLY INVOLVED IN THIS BIG ASSASSINATION ORGANIZATION WE'VE BEEN TRYING TO CATCH UP WITH IN THIS CITY.

HOLD ON ONE DAMN MINUTE, SAMUEL CROCHET! YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO ASSUME...

SAVE IT, MS. SINGING STAR. WE SEE A CONNECTION TO OUR INVESTIGATION AND WE'RE GOING TO LOOK INTO IT. RIGHT, JUBBS?

RIGHT. AND NOTHIN'S GOIN' TO GET IN OUR WAY... NOTHIN' OR NOBODY. DIG? CATCH YA LATER.

鮎川まとか

GAAA!

OOOF!

WHUMP!

NOW I'LL SHOW YOU BASTARDS...

... WHY YOU SHOULD NEVER STRIKE A LADY!

SHRtb#1

YEEEA AA!!

AAK!

UUAGH!

POW

GAAK!

鮎川まとか

UHFF... UGHNN...

OOH... SIR... ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? FROM MY ANGLE, THAT LOOKED MIGHTY PAINFUL.

YOUR SENSE OF HUMOR LACKS HUMOR, CLAW. I WILL OVERLOOK YOUR NONCHALANT ATTITUDE FOR NOW. YOUR SISTER HAS ALMOST DEFEATED MY MEN.

SO I SEE. SPUNKY, ISN'T SHE?

SHE HAS DISGRACED ME, KILL HER. DO YOU HEAR ME?

I HEAR...

...AND I OBEY, MASTER.

鮎川まとか

=PANT PANT=
KUROKAMI... PANT...
IS THIS YOUR BEST?
THEY'RE NO
BETTER THAN
YOU AFE!..

...AND THAT'S
NOT SAYING MUCH...

...HUH??

WELL, I SUPPOSE
I'D BETTER GIVE IT
A SHOT, EH, SIS?

鮎川まとか

WOOPS...

TRIP

WHOA

THOK THOK THOK

OH GOD...THE PAIN...

AAAAHHH!

THOSE ARE THE SAME BABIES YOU LAID INTO MY LEG A FEW WEEKS AGO. I THOUGHT I'D GIVE THEM BACK!

鮎川まとか

AAGH!

SHRRIP!

KIKU, KIKU...YOU'RE GETTING RUSTY.

鮎川まとか

UGNFF!

WHUD!

LIKE AN OLD CAR. YOU'RE RUNNING OUT OF GAS.

KYOKO!

鮎川まとか

KYOKO! PLEASE! DON'T FIGHT HIM! HE'S DANGEROUS! YOU'RE BADLY HURT AND LOSING BLOOD!

MASAO!...GET AWAY! GET OUT OF H-HERE! TH-THIS IS MY FIGHT....!

NO! I WON'T LEAVE YOU HERE WITH THAT MANIAC. HE MAY HAVE BEEN YOUR BROTHER, BUT NOW HE'S NOTHING BUT A KILLING MACHINE.

KILLING MACHINE, EH?

THOK THOK THOK

...THEN MY CIRCUITS SAY THAT IT'S TIME THAT KITAMURA-UNIT WAS TERMINATED!

GRRRLGHH

鮎川まとか

NO!

UGNFF... M MASAO... L-LET ME HELP... YOU... YOU'LL B-BE A-ALRIGHT...
NO, KYOKO... =HAK= IT.. IT'S TOO LATE THIS IS ALL MY FAULT..=:=

N-NO .. IT'S NOT YOUR FALLT. I'M HERE BECAUSE I CHOSE TO COME HERE. M MASAO?

GET UP AND FIGHT, GIRL...CAN'T YOU SEE HE'S BUSY BEING DEAD?
DAMN IT! I CAN SEE WHAT OKA WAS TALKING ABOUT!
WOOP!
TRIP!
YOU ARE TWISTED! YOU'VE LOST EVERYTHING DEAR TO YOU, INCLUDING YOURSELF!
KICK!
UGHNN!
YOU NO LONGER HAVE A CONSCIENCE OR A HEART!
KRAK

鮎川まとか

YOU'RE JUST A COLD-BLOODED MURDERER WITH NO SOUL!

THAK!

YOU NO LONGER CONSIDER ME YOUR SISTER."

DO YOU?

I NO LONGER CONSIDER YOU MY BROTHER! IF I CAN'T BEAT SENSE INTO YOU...

...THEN I'LL KILL YOU!

N NO! PLEASE... S-STOP! KIKU,.. PLEASE, NO MORE.

OH, KIKU. KIKU. PLEASE FORGIVE ME. FORGIVE ME! I-I'M SICK OF WHAT I'VE BECOME.

AFTER OUR FATHER WAS KILLED, I HAD NO SENSE OF PURPOSE. I-I JUST BEGAN TO TRUST NO ONE. NO ONE AT ALL. YOU'RE RIGHT. I BECAME COLD AND HEARTLESS. AND KUROKAMI HELPED ME BECOME THAT WAY.

NOT ONLY DID HE HELP TO WARP ME, BUT HE ALSO WAS THE ONE WHO HAD FATHER *KILLED!*

W-WHAT!?!

WHY DIDN'T YOU DO ANYTHING? WHY DID YOU CONTINUE TO KILL FOR HIM?

I FOUND OUT SO MUCH LATER THAT I ALMOST DIDN'T CARE, I...

鮎川まとか

PLEASE... JUST TELL ME EVERY-THING WILL BE ALRIGHT. P-PLEASE...

IT WILL, K-KOJI. EVERYTHING WILL BE FINE...

EVERYTHING WILL BE...

KUROKAMI! WHERE IS THAT BASTARD? WHERE DID HE GO?

WHILE I FOUGHT YOU, HE ESCAPED. IT'S ALRIGHT. I KNOW WHERE HE IS. I'LL FIND HIM AND MAKE HIM PAY DEARLY FOR WHAT HE'S DONE TO FATHER AND ME

NO, KOJI! NO MORE! PLEASE! THE LAW...

リボン

AIWA

THE AUTHORITIES DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ON HIM. HE'S CLEAN AS A WHISTLE AS FAR AS THEY'RE CONCERNED, ALTHOUGH HE'S HAD HIS FINGERS IN EVERY ILLEGAL GOINGS-ON IN TOKYO *AND* BEYOND; HE HAS SOMEONE ELSE TO DO IT FOR HIM. L-LIKE ME.

Y-YOU'RE ALREADY IN TROUBLE WITH THE LAW. S-SO YOU'RE GOING TO FIND HIM AND...? CHOKE!? OH, KOJI...LOOK AT WHAT WE'VE BECOME! BOTH OF US!

LOOK... YOU'VE GOT TO LEAVE. THE POLICE ARE COMING FOR SURE

WHAT ABOUT YOU?

I'M LEAVING ALSO. AFTER I TAKE CARE OF KUROKAMI, I'M TURNING MYSELF IN TO THE AUTHORITIES.

鮎川まとか

"...AND KIKU... I LOVE YOU. NEVER FORGET THAT, PLEASE."

I DO BELIEVE HIM. HE'S NEVER LIED A DAY IN HIS LIFE.

BUT IS IT OVER? IS IT REALLY OVER?

HE SAID HE WOULD WRITE ME FROM PRISON. THEY AREN'T GOING TO LET HIM LIVE FOR THE CRIMES HE'S COMMITTED, THOUGH I KNOW THAT.

I'M JUST CONTENT THAT HE'S STOPPED THE KILLING. AUNT OKÁ *WAS* WRONG ABOUT ONE THING. HE *DID* CHANGE

鮎川まとか

EVERYTHING IS LOOKING SO MUCH BRIGHTER FOR ME.

FLIGHT 360 FROM JAPAN

MY BROTHER HAS REPENTED AND KUROKAMI HAS PAID FOR HIS CRIMES, ALTHOUGH I WOULD'VE TAKEN HIM TO THE AUTHORITIES AS OPPOSED TO WHAT KOJI WILL PROBABLY DO.

AAA AIRLINES JAMAICA

WEL TO PHI

NOW I PLAN TO GET OUT OF THE ORGANIZATION FOREVER. THIS I PROMISE, MR. MORGAN.

The End

鮎川まとか

SHURIKEN PIN-UP

鮎川まとか

SHURIKEN PIN-UP #3

鮎川まとか

SHURIKEN
PIN-UP #5

CRAIG BRASFIELD
11-85

鮎川まとか

CRAIG
BLASHFIELD
11·85
SHURIKEN
PIN-UP #6
鮎川まとか

鮎川まどか
Ayukawa Madoka

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鮎川まどか

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